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## NOTE ON THE NEST OF VESPA CRABRO.

PLATES IX AND X.

By WILLIAM BEUTENMULLER.

The nest of this species, figured on Plate X, was found by Dr. E. G. Love, at Jamaica, Long Island. It was built in a hollow oak tree, and only had a small opening which was used as an entrance for the wasps. The figure is very much reduced; the nest is about two feet long and seven inches wide. The comb figured on Plate X is natural size and was taken from the middle part of the nest. In the American Museum of Natural History is a nest of *Crabro* from Germany, which is oblong oval, and constructed of a brittle, light brown wood pulp, from pine. It is an external nest, being covered with "paper" from which the resin exuded, giving it a variegated appearance. It evidently had been built between the rafters of a house. The top of nest is open, and shows traces of having been fastened at that end.

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## PROCEEDINGS OF THE NEW YORK ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

MEETING OF NOVEMBER 2, 1897.

Held at the American Museum of Natural History.

President Palm in the chair. Fifteen members present.

Mr. C. F. Hartman was elected an active member.

Mr. Davis exhibited a pupa, pinned soon after the pupation, that had continued to develop, and the butterfly had emerged with the pin stuck through it. He stated that he had experimented with several species with the same result.

Mr. Doll exhibited several cases of rare North American Lepidoptera, and after a general discussion the meeting adjourned.

MEETING OF NOVEMBER 16, 1897.

Held at the residence of Mr. Miller, 141 East 40th Street.

The entire evening was devoted to an auction sale of insects for the benefit of the JOURNAL, and the sum of \$117.00 was realized.

## MEETING OF DECEMBER 7, 1897.

Held at the American Museum of Natural History.

President Palm in the chair. Fourteen members present.

Mr. Daecke stated that it would be advisable to arrange for a series of classes for beginners to foster an interest in the study of entomology, and thought that the Society ought to undertake this task.

Dr. Martin read a paper entitled "On Collecting in New York City Forty Years Ago." He stated that he began collecting insects in Albany, and then came to this city and collected for about ten years. He collected principally in Washington Square, which in the fifties was a very different place from the Washington Square of to-day. The trees were mostly poplar, buttonwood, locust and weeping willow. He gave a graphic description of the features, and also mentioned the following as some of the insects caught there: Two species of *Catocala*, *Vanessa antiopa*, *Grapta comma* and *interrogationis*, *Limenitis dissippus*, a *Sesia*, much like *apiformis*, in the roots of poplar, *Brontes dubius*, *Saperda calcarata*, *Parandra brunnea*, *Dorcus parallelus*, *Pterostichus lucublandus*, *Neoclytus erythrocephalus*, *Caloides nobilis*, *Elaphrus ruscarius*, *Cotalpa lanigera*, several species of *Lachnosterna*, *Staphylinus*, *Chlanius*, *Harpalus* and also many *Hymenoptera* and *Diptera*. He stated that the black species of *Ophion* and *Pelecinus polycerator* were very common. Several species of *Agapostemon* on Althea flowers were also abundant. The canker-worms at that time swarmed over everything, but after the introduction of the English sparrow they gradually disappeared. *Calosoma scrutator*, *C. calidum* and *C. externum* were abundant and fed on the canker-worms. *Rhagium lineatum* was also to be found. He further stated that during that time *Oxaxis dorsalis* was to be found at Sandy Hook under logs and pieces of wood.

Mr. Beutenmuller said that this insect was yet to be found at Sandy Hook near the old steamboat landing, and he also exhibited larvæ of *Eudæmonia argus* and *argiphontes*.

Mr. Southwick made a few remarks on his work in Central Park, and said that with a little more help at certain seasons of the year he could manage to get rid of the *Orygia leucostigma*.

Mr. Doll exhibited a fine series of *Schinia brevis* caught near Brooklyn. He also showed some striking varieties of *Vanessa antiopa* lacking the blue spots.

After discussion, adjournment.